

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 /084 W

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P R 021000Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4679

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0614

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :PINT,PINS,RH

SUBJ : ELEVEN KILLED IN SALISBURY

1. EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT APPEARING IN SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS

(CAPE TIMES) REPORTS ELEVEN AFRICANS SHOT DEAD AND AT LEAST FIFTEEN OTHERS WOUNDED IN HIGHFIELD, AFRICAN TOWNSHIP NEAR SALISBURY, AFTERNOON JUNE 1. REPORTER JUSTIN NYOKA WRITES THAT RHODESIAN POLICEMEN OPENED FIRE ON CROWD WHICH HAD BEEN DEMONSTRATING SINCE EARLY MORNING OUTSIDE OF SHOPPING CENTER WHERE ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING TAKING PLACE.

2. ACCORDING TO NYOKA, ZANU AND ZAPU DEMONSTRATORS HAD SPENT DAY IN BITTER CONFRONTATION WITH EACH OTHER.

ZANU PLACARDS CALLING FOR INCREASED ARMED STRUGGLE WERE

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DESTROYED BY ZAPU FOLLOWERS. ZAPU SUPPORTERS REPORTEDLY

ATTEMPTED TO OVERTURN CAR OF ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER MORTON MALIANGA, AND AT ONE POINT TEN ZAPU MEN WHO NOW ANC PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT OFFICIALS, FORCED WAY INTO CONFERENCE ROOM AND TEMPORARILY DRAGGED OUT THREE FORMER ZANU LEADERS, INCLUDING DR. EDSON SITHOLE.

3. ACCORDING TO RHODESIAN POLICE OFFICIAL, POLICEMEN WERE STONED BY SOME IN CROWD AROUND 1600 HRS. ATTEMPTS TO DISPERSE MOB WITH DOGS FAILED AND AFTER FIRING WARNING SHOTS IN AIR INSPECTOR IN CHARGE OF GROUP REALIZED HIS PARTY WAS ABOUT TO BE INUNDATED. THEREFORE, HE ORDERED FIRING INTO CROWD TO BEGIN. POLICE OFFICIAL SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO TIME TO USE TEAR GAS; THAT POLICE WERE DOING NORMAL CROWD CONTROL AND CARRIED NO TEAR GAS. NYOKA'S ACCOUNT SAYS ABOUT FORTY SHOTS WERE FIRED.

4. AFTER SHOOTINGS, SPORADIC RIOTING CONTINUED IN SALISBURY AREA. ANC ISSUED STATEMENT DISAPPROVING DISRUPTION OF MEETING AND CONDEMNING POLICE ACTION. FORMER ZAPU LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO SAID THAT WHILE DEPLORING POLICE ACTION HE ALSO CRITICAL OF 'SOME Factions IN OUR ORGANIZATION WHO ORGANIZED DAY'S DEMONSTRATION'.

5. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT, ANC NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DECIDED AT MEETING THAT IT WILLING TO 'HOLD PRELIMINARY TALKS' WITH IAN SMITH LEADING TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE WITH BRITAIN BASED ON MAJORITY RULE.'

BOWDLER

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